

Abstract

First and second successions of data words, each data word including multiple payload data bits, a data block bit (C) and a block character (SOB) having a first state to indicate start of a sequence of data block bits and otherwise having a second state, are processed by detecting as a first event occurrence of the block character of the first succession of data words in the first state and as a second event the next succeeding occurrence of the block character of the second succession of data words in the first state, wherein the second event is delayed by a time  $T_z$  relative to the first event, reading the data block bits from successive data words of the first succession and generating a succession of delayed data block bits of the first succession of data words, delayed by the time  $T_z$  relative to the payload data bits of the first succession of data words. The data block bits of the delayed succession of data block bits are inserted in successive words of the first succession of data words, so that the start of the sequence of data block bits in the first succession of data words coincides with the start of the sequence of data block bits in the second succession of data words.

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